



## **SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

**[Docket No. SSA 2019-0004]**

### **Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program**

**AGENCY:** Social Security Administration (SSA).

**ACTION:** Notice of a New Matching Program.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act, as amended, this notice announces a new matching program with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA).

The matching agreement (agreement) sets forth the terms, conditions, and safeguards under which VA/VBA will provide SSA with information necessary to:

- (1) identify certain Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Special Veterans Benefit (SVB) recipients under Title XVI and Title VIII of the Social Security Act (Act), respectively, who receive VA-administered benefits;
- (2) determine the eligibility or amount of payment for SSI and SVB recipients; and
- (3) identify the income of individuals who may be eligible for Medicare cost-sharing assistance through the Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) as part of the agency's Medicare outreach efforts.

**DATES:** The deadline to submit comments on the proposed matching program is 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register (FR). The matching program will be applicable on November 11, 2019, or once a minimum of 30 days after publication of this notice has elapsed, whichever is later. The matching program will be in effect for a period of 18 months.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties may comment on this notice by either telefaxing to (410) 966-0869, writing to Matthew D. Ramsey, Executive Director, Office of Privacy and Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, G-401 WHR, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401, or emailing Matthew.Ramsey@ssa.gov. All comments received will be available for public inspection by contacting Mr. Ramsey at this street address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Norma Followell, Supervisory Team Lead, Office of Privacy and Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, G-401 WHR, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401, at Telephone: (410) 966-5855, or send an email to Norma.Followell@ssa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** None.

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Matthew Ramsey  
Executive Director,  
Office of Privacy and Disclosure,  
Office of the General Counsel.

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:** SSA and VA/VBA.

**AUTHORITY FOR CONDUCTING THE MATCHING PROGRAM:** The legal authorities for SSA to conduct this computer matching are sections 806(b), 1144, and 1631(e)(1)(B) and (f) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1006(b), 1320b-14, and 1383(e)(1)(B) and (f)).

The legal authority for VA to disclose information under this agreement is section 1631(f) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1383(f)), which requires Federal agencies to provide such information as the Commissioner of Social Security needs for purposes of determining eligibility for or amount of benefits, or verifying other information with respect thereto.

**PURPOSE(S):** The agreement establishes the conditions under which VA/VBA will provide SSA with information necessary to: (1) identify certain SSI and SVB recipients under Title XVI and Title VIII of the Act, respectively, who receive VA-administered benefits; (2) determine the eligibility or amount of payment for SSI and SVB recipients; and (3) identify the income of individuals who may be eligible for Medicare cost-sharing assistance through the MSP as part of the agency's Medicare outreach efforts.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS:** The individuals whose information is involved in this matching program are those individuals who are receiving VA compensation or pension benefits and SSI or SVB benefits.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS:** VA will provide SSA with electronic files containing compensation and pension payment data. SSA will match the VA data with its SSI/SVB payment information. SSA will conduct the match using the Social Security number, name, date of birth, and VA claim number on both the VA file and the Supplemental Security Income Record and Special Veterans Benefits system of records (SOR).

**SYSTEM(S) OF RECORDS:** VA will provide SSA with electronic files containing compensation and pension payment data from its SOR entitled the “Compensation, Pension, Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records-VA” (58VA21/22/28), republished with updated name at 74 FR 14865 (April 1, 2009) and last amended at 77 FR 42593 (July 19, 2012). Routine use 20 of 58VA21/22/28 permits disclosure of the subject records for matching purposes.

SSA will match the VA data with SSI/SVB payment information maintained in its SOR entitled “Supplemental Security Income Record and Special Veterans Benefits” (60-0103), last fully published on January 11, 2006 (71 FR 1830), and amended on December 10, 2007 (72 FR 69723), July 3, 2018 (83 FR 31250-31251), and November 1, 2018 (83 FR 54969).

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